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Attempt to Restore Snepp's Author Fee Is Expected to Fail

Attorney General Benjamin R. Civiletti is not expected to grant an appeal by eight authors and publishers on behalf of writer and former CIA officer Frank Snepp, a spokesman for the Association of American Publishers said yesterday.

The Supreme Court ruled earlier this year that the government was entitled to Snepp's earnings from "Decent Interval," his book critical of American policy in Vietnam, on the grounds that Snepp failed to submit his manuscript to the CIA for prepublication review.

In their June 10 appeal, the authors and publishers said the ruling, requiring Snepp to forfeit more than \$100,000 in royalties on the book, would "have a ruinous effect on his personal financial condition."

Civiletti's office refused comment on the publisher's association statement.